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HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL NOTES AND QUERIES.

The History of George Rogers Clark's "Memori." Documents and Comments.

Contributed by Miss MINNIE GATHRIGHT COOK, Milwaukee, Wis.

George Rogers Clark's "Memoir"—the MS of which is now a part of the celebrated Draper Collection in the Historical Library at Madison, Wisconsin—has been used to a greater or less extent by a numbers of historians in writing the history of the West, but has been published in its entirety only once, by Governor William English of Indiana, as an appendix to his "Conquest of the Northwest Territory." Unfortunately, Mr. English belonged to the old school, who, as one of them expressed himself to me, saw no good in preserving the indifferent spelling and punctuation current in Clark's time; and who felt that historical etiquette demanded that, in quoting characters of that or any early times, the historian should make their writings appear as they probably would have, had those characters lived and written in the historian's day. Although English's corrections in some instances alter the sense, it is never in a material way, so the only real loss to the student is that of historical atmosphere; and if English blundered in the one respect, he at least, rendered a great service in placing the entire "Memoir" within the reach of students at large, until such times as it may be produced literally.

As the "Memoir" is the only contemporary detailed account we have of the transactions in the west from 1775 to 1779, inclusive, it is of no small importance to the student of history, to know the exact status of this narrative as an authority. Historians are not in accord upon this point, partly because it contains hitherto uncorroborated statements, and partly because of ignorance of the history of the "Memoir," and the consequent uncertainty as to the time it was written. Dillon states that it was written at the "united desire of Presidents Jefferson and Madison." From this assertion it has been assumed that the "Memoir" was written "some thirty or forty years after the events of which it speaks," when Clark, "in his old age took delight in writing down all sorts of childish stratagems," "half imaginary feats of childish cunning," &c.

The extracts, given below, from a correspondence between Clark and the Honorable John Brown, of Kentucky, give us the history of

written to his uncle, Isaac Hite, Sr.—of Frederick Co., Virginia—which has hitherto escaped the notice of the historian.

Among the mooted questions of this campaign are the forces under Hamilton and Clark, respectively, when each reached Vincennes. The number of Clark's men is definitely settled, and backing given to Clark's statement as to Hamilton's numbers, by the Bowman letter. Indeed, the letter is, in reality, a synopsis of the "Memoir," and as it has never been published in part or as a whole, is given here, entire:

Note (to be appended to the letter). The original of this letter is the property of Mr. Temple Bodley, of Louisville, Kentucky, a great grandson of Jonathan and Nanny Hite Clark. The "Memoir" belonged to his father, the late Judge Bodley, of Louisville, who let Mr. Draper have it.

LETTER OF JOSEPH BOWMAN TO MR. ISAAC HITE, ESQR.

Islenoise, Kaskaskai, June 14th, 1779.

Dear Sr:

I Received your Letter by Brother Isaac who Arived Saif at this Place the 10 of may Last which gave me the Greatest Satisfaction to hear from you & the rest of my friends so distinate from me, I am sorry that it is not in my Power to furnish Isaac With a Quantity of goods &c. agreeable to his Instructions from you as I should approve Of it much could they be had, but Believe me their is none in the Country as their has been no supplys brought from New Orleans Since Last Summer, by which means I was disappointed of Getting a Cargo I had sent for; the traiding Vessels at New orleans has for some time Employd themselves seaking Of traid Else where on the american Coasts. Money has become so plenty here with us by traiders from Difirent Quarters that it does not Rate at above half as High as it does aney where Else in the United states, so that their is no Chance of Purchaseing aney Commodity what Ever whereby a prophit might be had from it, at Preasent, and as the distance is two great for Isaac to Return without doing something I have Recommended him to Continue here and go with our Ridge-ments, which Is to start in about four days for Detroit where I hope to find goods in great abundance. We have had Every Piece of Intiligence we could wish for from that Quarter and make no Doubt of our Success. Notwithstanding the Reinforcement by Colo. Montgomery and our own troops will not Exceed five Hundred men, but our men here beeing Accustomed to Success since our Arivel in this Country, and their Anxiaty so great, gives us the greatist Confidance of their Bravery and good Conduct.

If we should be successfull on our Expedetion I Expect to Return with my Brother which will be some time towards Christmass.

Kaintuckey is very strong several forts built their Laitley I am Inform'd that Brother John has March'd some time agoe with a bodey of troops from their against the Shawnees.

I wrote to you in March Last giving you A detail of our Last Expedition against Governer Hamilton at Post St. Vinsent but our Express Unfortunately got Kil'd Near the falls of Ohio and All the letters and Papers destroy'd so that I do not Expect you have had a true account as yet. Some time in December Last Governer Hamelton Came down the wabash from Detroit with about 800 men Including french English & Indians Retook St. Vinsent from us without the Loss of aney men of Either side. He Immediately sent off Belts and speeches to Sundray Nations to the North & westward of this In Order to Collect as maney as to Inable him to Retake the Islenoise Country Destroy Kaintuckey and drive all before him as far As fort Pitt, thus finding our situation without the Least Expectations of Succor Oblige us to fall On an Expedient Resolution, which was for a boate with two four Pounders & 4 swivels to be sent off Immediately with 50 (40) [The figures are written one over the other in the original.] to Perceed by water to Post Vinsent whilst Col. Clark myself & the Rest of his forces Consisting of about 130 where to Conduct our selves by Land and meet our boat on her way within a few miles of that Place & then to Lay seage to the fort upon all avents, Accordingly on the sixth of February we started trough Rain Mud and mire Continueing our Rout the Distance About 180 miles and in Nineteen days arived at the Place, but no account of our Boat it beein kept Back by the High water, our men were almost Perrished to Death beeing 5 day without Privision and haveing the waters to waïd the Cheifest Part of that time from their middles up to their Necks, mear Hunger then forced us to attact the Fort before the arivel of our boat which began about 8 oclock in the night with A brisk fire on both sides and Continued all night and the Cheifest part of the next Day Dureing which time ther Cannon Play'd on Us from Every Quarter of the fort but Done us no Damage we wounded sundray of their men through the Portholes which Caus'd them to surrender themselves and Garrison, to the great Mortification of Our Boats Crew who had not the Oppertunity of making use of their Cannon, the Cheifest Part of the Indians where sent out in Parties to war Some to Kaintuckey some to watch the Ohio &c Untill their main bodey could Collect for the Executeing the Plan they had Laid, so that we took but seven Indians which was Immediately Tomahock'd and between 130 or 40 Prisoners amongst whome where some french Troops which was Discharg'd

upon Parole. maney Nations has since been in and treated for Peace; at the surrender of the Garrison we got One, sixpound Brass field Piece two four-Pounders of Iron & two swivels Likewise a large Quantity of Military stores and Indian goods to the amount of Twenty Thousand Pounds,.....we have sent All the Officers with their attendance to Williamsburg the rest Destributed to the diferent towns in this Country.....If we could have had more men here then what we had three is no telling what we mought have done, but I am afraid that the Assembly has not thought this Country of so Great Importance as what it Raley is, Other ways their mought have been a finel Peace settled with the Indians by this time; and nothing but that alone Induces me to Continue as long as what I have done, as I Am Sensible, that the acting in a Publick Comapasy Interfairs two much with our Private affairs.....the bearer stands waiting for my letter and have not time to write or Answer Other Letters that I receiv'd by my Brother for which I hope you'l Excuse me to all you heare Complain, my Compliments to aunt and All Enquireing friends not forgetting my Uncle John.

whilst I Remain Dear Sr. your most Obed't friend & Humb Saiv't

Jos. BOWMAN.

N. B. Isaac Informes me that Ab'm has Quit the service If so I am in hoops he will Drive out.our stock to Kaintuckey this fall.

J. B.

SOME EARLY MAPS OF VIRGINIA—CORRECTIONS.

P. 72, line 6, from bottom, read "day *and* when."

P. 74, line 1, read 1673 (not 1613).

P. 74, line 22, read pleased of (not by).

P. 74, line 27, read of this *map* may be found.

P. 75, line 10, read lose (not loose).

P. 76, line 11, read "A new and accurate chart of the bay of Chesapeake, published in London in 1776, evidently for the use of the Britishers in the Revolutionary war." (This error was made by the typewriter in copying the article).

P. 77, line 12, read Hutchins (not Hutchinns).

P. 78, line 7, read obstinate and blindfold.

P. 80, line 2 from bottom, read we (not ye).

THWEATT—I am preparing a genealogy of the Thweatt family, which was early seated in Virginia, and is now scattered all over the country. There are branches of the family still in Virginia, others being in Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Arkansas.

I will deeply appreciate any records of this family, or information pertaining thereto; especially as to the early generations of the family in Prince George and Dinwiddie counties. In each case correspondents are respectfully requested to give full names and dates in every possible instance.

THOMAS HART RAINES, (M. D.)

No. 221 Charlton St., East, Savannah, Ga.

MATHEWS.—On p. 14, of the last number of this Magazine, appeared a foot-note relating to the celebrated Mathews family, of Augusta county. Of the two brothers, Sampson and George Mathews, the latter became Governor of Georgia and died in Augusta, Georgia, in 1812, while on his way to Washington, to "whip the President." He is buried in St. Paul's churchyard, underneath a stone bearing the following inscription:

IN
Memory of
Gen'l. George Mathews
who died the 30th of August
1812
in the 73rd year
of his age.

THOMAS HART RAINES, Savannah, Ga.

YOUNG.—Will some one give me some information about the Youngs? My great-grandmother was Martha Young and she married Major John Sharp or Sharpe, who was a Revolutionary soldier, who lies buried, he and his wife Martha, in Smyrna, Tenn. She must belong to the family of Youngs of whom Francis Young and Martha LeGros were the emigrant ancestors, whose son Michael Cadet Young married Martha Saddler, whose children were Francis, (married Elizabeth Bennett), Thomas (married Judith Johnston), William, James, Benjamin, LeGos and Henry. Francis was clerk of Circuit and County Courts of Isle of Wight county, and this office has been held by his descendants ever since. Thomas Young, born 1732, in Brunswick Co., Va., moved to North Carolina and settled on Hunting Creek. Married 1st, Judith Johnston, and 2nd, Lucy Ragsdale. He died on Hunting Creek in 1829. I know nothing of the families of the other sons. What I want to know is, who was the father of my great-grandmother Martha Young, who married John Sharp, who was a son of John Sharp and Jemima Alexander Sharp of N. C. John Sharp and Martha Young had several children, one

of whom, William Sharp, born Sept. 15, 1788, married Mary Lee Wilson, who was a daughter of Sarah Chew Lee, of Baltimore, and Wm. Lee Wilson. My mother was Martha Caroline Sharpe, married Thomas Jefferson Dobyns in Tennessee, in 1837. Now, from the names Martha in each family, I think I am descended from Francis Young and Martha LeGros through them from Michael Cadet Young and Martha Saddler and through them from either Francis and Elizabeth Peyton Bennett Young or Thomas and Judith Johnston Young or second wife Lucy Ragsdale Youn. I think the latter, as the Sharpes were from North Carolina and Tennessee. If some one will help me to find the names of the parents of Martha Young, who married John Sharpe and lived and died at Symrna. Tenn., I will be under obligations.

MRS. C. E. ANDREWS, Boonville, Mo.

FAUNTLEROY.—A pedigree of Fauntleroy from the Visitation of Dorset, 1565, may be found in the *Genealogist*, New Series, Vol. 2, p. 330.

ST. LEGER.—A pedigree of this family, which has so many descendants in Virginia, is contained in Martin's *History of Leeds Castle, Kent, England*.

WILL OF WILLIAM PAUL (Brother of John Paul Jones)

"In the name of God, Amen. I, William Paul, of the town of Fredericksburg and County of Spotsylvania, Virginia, Being in Perfect sound memory thanks be to Almighty God and knowing it is time appointed unto all men to Die Do make and Ordain this my last will and Testament in manner and form following—Revoking all former Wills by me heretofore made.

Principally and first of all I recommend my soul to Almighty God who Gave it Hoping Through the merits of my Blessed Saviour and Redeemer Jesus Christ to find Redemption, and as Touching and Concerning What Worldly Estate, it hath pleased God to bless me with I dispose of in the following manner. Item It is my Will and Desire that all my Just debts and Funeral Expenses be first paid by my Executors hereafter named who are desired to Bury my Body in a decent Christian Like manner.

Item. It is my Will and desire that my Lots & Houses in the Town be sold and converted into money for as much as they will bring, That with all my other Estate being sold and what of my Outstanding debts that can be Collected, I give and bequeath unto my beloved sister Mary Young & her two Elder children in Arbiglin in the Parish of Kirthburn in Stewarty of Galloway, North Britain & their heirs forever. And I Do hereby Impower my Executors to sell

& Convey the said Land, Lotts & Houses and make a fee simple therein as firmly as I could or might do it in my proper person.

I do appoint my Friends Mr Wm. Templeman & Mr Isaac Heslop my Executors to see this my Will Executed. Confirming this to be my last Will and Testament. In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & fix'd my Seal as my Last act & Deed This 22d Day of March 1772.

WM. PAUL (Seal).

Wm. Paul having heard the above will distinctly read, Declared the same to be his last Will & Testam't in the presence of us

John Atkinson B. Johnston.
Fras. Holmes"

At a Court held for Spotsylvania Co. Dec. 16, 1774. The last will of Wm. Paul was proved & the executors therein named refusing to take the executorship, John Atkinson was appointed executor with John Waller as security in £500.

[William Paul was buried in St. Georges Churchyard, Fredericksburg, where his tomb remains; but there is no record either in Spotsylvania or in Fredericksburg of the sale of his estate, or of any account rendered by the executor. The name of John Paul or John Paul Jones does not appear in either record. The house and lot where Wm. Paul lived can still be identified, and as the title can not be traced from Wm. Paul down, it would be interesting to know how far back it can be traced from the present owner.

Mary, sister of Wm. and John Paul, married first Richard Young, and secondly Mark Lowden. See "John Paul Jones as a Citizen of Virginia," this Magazine, VII, 286-293.]

MATTHEWS—McCARTY.—In suit of Matthews *vs.* Brent, in the records of the old District Chancery Court at Fredericksburg, it is stated that John Matthews, of Westmoreland Co., married Mary Chinn McCarty, daughter of Col. Thaddeus McCarty and had two children: John Ryburn Matthews, and Baldwin Smith Matthews, both alive in 1821. Col. Thaddeus McCarty, who was of Lancaster Co., died about 1787.

CARTER—PAGE.—In suit of Carter *vs.* Page, in the records of the old District Chancery Court in Fredericksburg, are full copies of the wills of Mann Page, of Rosewell, dated Jan. 24, 1730, and proved in the General Court April 28, 1731; of Robert Page, of Hanover, with codicils dated 1765-67; of Robert Carter, of Baltimore, and of Nominy, proved March 17, 1804, and of Charles Carter, of Shirley, proved September 18, 1806.